



Lesson 1: What is Air Pollution?

This lesson is designed to last 1 hour and will explore what students know about air pollution.



As a result of participating in this session, students will be able to:

- **REMEMBER** what air pollution is.
- **UNDERSTAND** what causes air pollution.
- **EXPLAIN** the effects of air pollution on the planet.

Curriculum Links

Geography Programme of Study: Key Stage 3

- Human and Physical Geography
 - Understand how human and physical processes interact to influence and change landscapes, environments and the climate; and how human activity relies on the effective functioning of natural systems.

Science Programme of Study for Key Stage 3

- The composition of the atmosphere.
- The production of carbon dioxide by human activity and the impact on climate.

Lesson Resources

- [Air Pollution Video for Kids: Causes, Effects & Solutions - YouTube](#)

10 mins	<p>Introduction/Do Now Task:</p> <p>Ask students to work in small groups, thinking about what they know already about air pollution and gathering their thoughts as notes. Students should use a format they are comfortable with, such as a spider chart, in the activity sheet provided. Take feedback to share a few of the key points. Ask students to retain their notes for later on in the lesson.</p>
20 mins	<p>Starter Task:</p> <p>Explain to students that you are going to show them a video and that they need to gather information whilst it is playing. Before showing them the video display the questions you want them to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is air pollution? • What are the causes of air pollution? • What are the effects of air pollution, on the human body? • What are the effects of air pollution, on the atmosphere? • What can we do to control air pollution levels? <p>It may be useful to either pause the video at points or to show it twice. Take feedback and display key points (these are needed for the next task); address any misconceptions.</p>
20 mins	<p>Main Task:</p> <p>Allocate points from the previous task to small groups of students to research further, so that (ideally) each group has a different task. Explain that their research should enable them to either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the point further <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an example (or different example) <p>They could use textbooks, prior knowledge or the internet, such as: Air pollutants - The atmosphere - AQA Synergy - GCSE Combined Science Revision - AQA Synergy - BBC Bitesize</p> <p>Students should compile notes/summaries of their research findings, and how they have answered the point assigned to their group.</p> <p>Go round the room, asking for a one sentence summary of a key point from their work.</p>
10 mins	<p>Plenary:</p> <p>Using a different colour pen, ask students to now add more ideas about air pollution to the notes they created in the 'Do Now Task'. Encourage students to draw upon both what they found out and also what other class members shared. Ask students to volunteer examples of additions or select students to share.</p>



Thank you for incorporating our resources into your teaching. Your feedback is valuable to us as we strive to improve and enhance our materials. We kindly ask that you take a few moments to complete the online feedback questionnaire. Your insights and suggestions will help us better support you and your students in the future.

